

LEON WILSON CLARK  
OPERA SERIES

SHEPHERD SCHOOL OPERA  
WORKSHOP CLASS

*presents a program of*

OPERA SCENES

*Richard Bado, conductor*

*Debra Dickinson, stage director*

*Mark Whatley, stage director*

*Grant Loehnig, pianist*

*Rachel Chao, pianist*

*Friday, February 5, and  
Saturday, February 6, 2010*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Wortham Opera Theatre*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music

## PROGRAM

### **LE NOZZE DI FIGARO**

*Music by Wolfgang Amadè Mozart;  
libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte; premiere 1786*

**Susanna, or via, sortite**

*Count – Samuel Schultz*

*Countess – Julia Bell*

*Susanna – Julie Marx*

*Cherubino – Erica Schoelkopf*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

### **CARMEN**

*Music by Georges Bizet;  
libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy; premiere 1875*

**Parle-moi de ma mère!**

*Don José – Robert Lilly*

*Micaëla – Ann Marshall*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Rachel Chao*

### **CARMEN**

*Music by Georges Bizet;  
libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy; premiere 1875*

**Mêlons! Coupons!**

*Frasquita – Julie Marx*

*Mercédès – Erika Rodden*

*Carmen – Sishel Claverie*

*Death – Eric Longo*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

### **DON PASQUALE**

*Music by Gaetano Donizetti;  
libretto by Giovanni Ruffini; premiere 1843*

**Signorina, in tanta fretta**

*Don Pasquale – Adam Lau*

*Norina – Maria Failla*

*Stage Director – Mark Whatley*

*Pianist – Rachel Chao*

### **LA TRAVIATA**

*Music by Giuseppe Verdi;  
libretto by Francesco Maria Piave; premiere 1853*

**Madamigella Valéry?**

*Giorgio Germont – Marcus DeLoach*

*Violetta Valéry – Mary-Jane Lee*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Rachel Chao*

## **INTERMISSION**

### **COSÌ FAN TUTTE**

*Music by Wolfgang Amadè Mozart;  
libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte; premiere 1790*

***Una donna a quindici anni***

***Prenderò quel brunettino***

*Despina – Shelley Cantrick*

*Fiordiligi – Chelsea Shephard*

*Dorabella – Rebecca Henderson*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

### **L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI**

*Music by Gioachino Rossini;  
libretto by Angelo Anelli; premiere 1813*

***Ai capricci della sorte***

*Taddeo – Christopher Besch*

*Isabella – Alison Campagna*

*Pirates – Adam Lau, Robert Lilly, Samuel Schultz*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Rachel Chao*

### **L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA**

*Music by Claudio Monteverdi;  
libretto by Giovanni Francesco Busenello; premiere 1643*

***Pur ti miro***

*Poppea – Lauren Iezzi*

*Nerone – Geordie Alexander*

*Stage Director – Mark Whatley*

*Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

### **LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT**

*Music by Gaetano Donizetti;  
libretto by Jules-Henri Vernoy de Saint-Georges  
and Jean-François Bayard; premiere 1840*

***Quoi! Vous m'aimez?***

*Marie – Corissa Leonard*

*Tonio – Brenton Ryan*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

### **DIE ENTFÜHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL**

*Music by Wolfgang Amadè Mozart;  
libretto by Christoph Friedrich Bretzner; premiere 1782*

***Ach, Belmonte!***

*Konstanze – Annamarie Zmolek*

*Belmonte – Zachary Devin*

*Pedrillo – Eric Longo*

*Blondchen – Abbey Curzon*

*Stage Director – Debra Dickinson*

*Pianist – Rachel Chao*



## ARTISTIC STAFF

Conductor . . . . . Richard Bado  
Stage Directors . . . . . Debra Dickinson and Mark Whatley  
Lighting Designer . . . . . Troy McLaughlin  
Musical Preparation . . . . . Grant Loehnig and Rachel Chao

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director . . . . . Troy McLaughlin  
Stage Manager, Properties Master . . . . . Alex Stutler  
Costume Supervisor . . . . . Barbara Dolney  
Surtitled Operator. . . . . Sarah Mesko  
Running Crew . . . . . Brian Haase

*Surtitles created by the performers in each scene.*

*The performance is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes with one intermission.*

## SHEPHERD SCHOOL OPERA DEPARTMENT AND VOICE DEPARTMENT

*Richard Bado, Professor of Opera Studies and  
Director of the Opera Studies Program*

*Rachel Chao, Staff Pianist*

*Janet de Chambrier, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies*

*Debra Dickinson, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies for Acting and Movement*

*Susan Lorette Dunn, Lecturer in Voice*

*Thomas Jaber, Professor of Music, Director of  
Choral Activities, and Vocal Coach*

*Kathleen Kaun, Professor of Voice*

*Stephen King, Professor of Voice and Chair of the Voice Department*

*Grant Loehnig, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies*

*Susanne Mentzer, Professor of Voice*

*Karen Reeves, Opera Program Administrator*

*Troy McLaughlin, Technical Director*

*Alex Stutler, Assistant Director and Stage Manager*

## UPCOMING OPERA EVENT

March 25, 26, 28 and 29

*Shepherd School Opera and the Shepherd School Chamber Orchestra  
present **A Little Night Music** by Stephen Sondheim.*

*All performances at 7:30 p.m. except March 28 at 2:00 p.m.*

*Wortham Opera Theatre at the Shepherd School.*

*Admission (general seating): \$12; students and  
senior citizens \$10. For tickets call 713-348-8000.*

***A Little Night Music** is presented through special arrangement with  
Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials  
are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019*

*Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)*



## BIOGRAPHIES

GEORDIE ALEXANDER is a second-year master's student at The Shepherd School of Music, studying with Dr. Stephen King. A native of Rochester, New York, he graduated from the State University of New York, Fredonia, with a bachelor's degree in music education. For two summers he participated in the Aspen Music Festival and School. Recent roles of note include Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Maximillian in *Candide*, Pinellino in *Gianni Schicchi*, The Impresario in *Viva la mamma!*, and Sid in *Albert Herring* in last winter's scenes program. He will play the role of Frid in the upcoming production of *A Little Night Music*.

JULIA BELL is a second-year graduate student at The Shepherd School of Music, where she studies with Kathleen Kaun. She received her bachelor's degree from the Royal College of Music in London, England. Past productions include *Anna Bolena*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, and *Norma*. Ms. Bell covered the role of Donna Anna in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* and will be singing the role of Mrs. Segstrom in *A Little Night Music* this spring.

CHRISTOPHER BESCH is in his first year at The Shepherd School of Music pursuing his master's degree in vocal performance with Dr. Stephen King. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Lawrence Conservatory in Wisconsin, studying with Steven Paul Spears. His operatic experience includes Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Falstaff in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Simone in *Gianni Schicchi*, Colas in *Bastien and Bastienne*, and the Lackey in *Ariadne auf Naxos*. He will play the role of Bertrand in the upcoming production of *A Little Night Music*. Mr. Besch's concert repertoire includes Bach's *Ich habe genug* and *St. Matthew Passion*, Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, and Faure's *Requiem*.

ALISON CAMPAGNA received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance, magna cum laude, from Pepperdine University. Recently, she played the role of Jo March in the European premiere of *Little Women* with the Intermezzo Elardo Young Artist program in Brugge, Belgium. Past operatic credits include *A Hand of Bridge*, *The Bartered Bride*, *The Crucible*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *Così fan tutte*, *Gianni Schicchi*, and *Viva la mamma!*. Ms. Campagna is an alumni of the prestigious OperaWorks program and the Redwoods Opera Workshop program. At the Shepherd School she is pursuing a master's degree in voice under the tutelage of Susanne Mentzer.

SHELLEY CANTRICK is currently a senior vocal performance major studying with Kathleen Kaun. Her most recent Shepherd School Opera engagements have included singing in the off-stage chorus in *Sāvitrī*, the chorus of *L'elisir d'amore*, and in last year's scenes programs as Beth in *Little Women*, Meleagro in *Atalanta*, and Emma in *Albert Herring*. She will be playing the role of Osa in *A Little Night Music* this spring. Ms. Cantrick was a soloist in the Shepherd School's performance of Bach's *Magnificat*.

Mezzo-soprano SISHEL CLAVERIE was born in Mexico City, and was a member of the International Mexican Art Society (SIVAM) for four years. In 2003, she performed as Meg in the Mexican premiere of *Little Women*. In 2008 she graduated from the University of Houston with a bachelor's degree in vocal performance. While at the Moores Opera Center, Ms. Claverie performed several roles including the title role in *Chérubin*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Zita in *Gianni Schicchi* and Desideria in *The Saint of Bleeker Street*. This past fall she performed the role of the Composer in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at The Shepherd School of Music. She recently performed as a soloist



with the Woodlands Symphony Orchestra, the Bach Society Houston, and in the Acapulco French Festival '09. As a two-time winner of the Moores Concerto Competition, she performed *Les Nuits d'été* by Berlioz and Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with the Moores Symphony Orchestra. This past summer she was a Wolf Trap Opera Studio Artist. She will perform the role of Mrs. Anderssen in *A Little Night Music* this spring. Ms. Claverie continues her vocal training with Susanne Mentzer while pursuing a master's degree at the Shepherd School.

A native of Calgary, Canada, soprano ABBEY CURZON will appear as Fredrika in The Shepherd School of Music's upcoming production of *A Little Night Music*. She has been featured as a soloist in Honegger's *King David* with the Rice Chorale and was an ensemble member in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* last spring. While studying at the Brevard Music Center this past summer, she covered the role of Olympia in *Les contes d'Hoffmann* and appeared as Suor Osmina in *Suor Angelica*. Ms. Curzon is a junior studying voice in Susanne Mentzer's studio.

MARCUS DELOACH is a doctoral student at the Shepherd School, studying with Dr. Stephen King. He has recently performed Jean in Philippe Boesman's *Julie* at Teatro Comunale di Bolzano, Ebn-Hakia in *Iolanta* at Kentucky Opera, and Joseph De Rocher in *Dead Man Walking* at Opera Ireland. New York City Opera appearances have included Count Almaviva in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Satyr/Citheron in *Platée*, and Slim in *Of Mice and Men*. He has additionally performed at Seattle Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Tulsa Opera, and Opera Theatre of St. Louis. While at The Shepherd School of Music he performed the role of the The Music Master in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and will be heard as Fredrik Egerman in *A Little Night Music* this spring. In concert he has performed with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, The Marilyn Horne Foundation and Wigmore Hall (London).

ZACHARY DEVIN is a second-year graduate student at The Shepherd School of Music where he studies with Kathleen Kaun. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Music at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, where he studied with Terry Stone. Most recently he has performed the roles of the Officer in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Satyavan in *Sāvitrī*, Ralph Rackstraw in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, as well as covering the role of Don Ottavio in the Shepherd School's 2009 production of *Don Giovanni*. His upcoming roles include Mr. Erlanson in the Shepherd School's spring production of *A Little Night Music*. Mr. Devin was a featured artist in the Crawford County Arts Winter Recital Season in Robinson, Illinois, this past December.

MARIA FAILLA is a third-year undergraduate soprano at The Shepherd School of Music, where she studies with Kathleen Kaun. Since she began her studies here, she has been an ensemble member in the productions of *Don Giovanni* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*. She has performed several solos with the Rice Chorale, including the soprano solo in Poulenc's *Gloria* in the spring of 2009. Ms. Failla will be performing the role of Anne in the Shepherd School's production of *A Little Night Music* this March.

— BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUED ON INSERTED PAGE —





REBECCA HENDERSON, originally from Lubbock, Texas, is a senior studying with Susanne Mentzer. At The Shepherd School of Music, she has performed in the choruses of *Rinaldo*, *L'elisir d'amore*, and *Sävitri*, and this spring will be playing the role of Malla in *A Little Night Music*. In scenes programs Ms. Henderson has performed the roles of Meg in *Little Women* and Annio in *La clemenza di Tito*. She was featured as a soloist for the Shepherd School's performance of Bach's *Magnificat*.

A native of Philadelphia, mezzo-soprano LAUREN IEZZI is a first-year graduate student at the Shepherd School studying with Susanne Mentzer. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music in 2009. While at Eastman Ms. Iezzi performed the roles of Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Petra in *A Little Night Music*, and Maybelle/Peggy in Hoiby's *This is the Rill Speaking*. As a soloist in concert repertoire, Ms. Iezzi has performed Mozart's *Requiem*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and Handel's *Messiah*. In 2008 Ms. Iezzi was a Studio Artist at Lake George Opera. She has also attended "Si parla, si canta" in Urbania, Italy, and has placed in competitions in western New York. This spring Ms. Iezzi will be reprising the role of Petra in The Shepherd School's production of *A Little Night Music*.

ADAM PAUL LAU is a second-year master's student at The Shepherd School of Music, where he studies with Dr. Stephen King. He earned a bachelor's degree from Whitman College. Recent credits include Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Symphony and Opera Academy of the Pacific, and the Bartender in *A Wedding* at Music Academy of the West. In 2008, he made his San Francisco Opera debut as a Baobab/Hunter in *The Little Prince*. He placed second in the Western Regional finals of the 2007 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. In 2008, he won an Encouragement Award from the Marilyn Horne Foundation and was the recipient of the 2008 California Federation of Music Clubs Full Fellowship in Voice. In 2009, he placed second in the Tuesday Musical Club in San Antonio and sang in the Martin Katz master class at Carnegie Hall in The Song Continues Festival sponsored by the Marilyn Horne Foundation. Mr. Lau sang the role of Masetto in *Don Giovanni* at the Shepherd School as well as Leporello in *Don Giovanni* at the Aspen Opera Theater Center this year. This past fall he performed the role of the Poet in *Viva la mamma!* at the Shepherd School.

MARY-JANE LEE, soprano, is a native of Sandy, Utah, and a second-year graduate student at The Shepherd School of Music. She is a student of Dr. Stephen King. She completed her Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance at Utah State University's Caine School of the Arts. Most recently Ms. Lee performed Masetto in *La bohème* with the Aspen Opera Theater Center. While at The Shepherd School of Music, she has performed the roles of Ciesca in *Gian-ni Schicchi*, the Prima Donna in the Prologue from *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and covered the role of Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*. Other recent performances include Micaëla in *Carmen* with the Chautauqua Institution, Adina in *L'elisir d'amore*, the mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and the title role in *The Ballad of Baby Doe* and *Luisa Fernanda* with Utah State University Opera Theater. This spring Ms. Lee will perform the role of Desirée Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music* at the Shepherd School.

CORISSA LEONARD, soprano, is in her second year as a master's student of Kathleen Kaun at The Shepherd School of Music. This summer she performed the role of Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Lyric Opera Stu-



dio of Weimar. Other recent roles include Nella in **Gianni Schicchi** and Zerbinetta in **Ariadne auf Naxos** at the Shepherd School, Mrs. Gleaton in **Susanah** at the Brevard Music Center in 2007, and L'Aurora in **L'Egisto** at DePaul University. Ms. Leonard graduated from DePaul University in Chicago with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance. While at DePaul, she studied with Amy Conn and Elizabeth Gottlieb. As a member of the chorus, she has performed in **La traviata**, **Candide**, **La bohème**, **Carmen**, and recently the off-stage chorus of **Cavalleria rusticana** at Houston Grand Opera.

A Houston native, ROBERT LILLY is a first-year graduate student at The Shepherd School of Music. Mr. Lilly received his Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Arts from the University of Southern California in May 2009. There he participated in productions of **Idomeneo**, **I Capuleti e i Montecchi**, and **Miss Lonelyhearts**. He also appeared in scenes from **Le nozze di Figaro**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **Die Zauberflöte**, and **L'amico Fritz**. In the summer of 2008, Mr. Lilly performed at the International Lyric Academy in Viterbo, Italy. While there, he performed in recitals and productions of **La bohème**, **La traviata**, and **Die Zauberflöte**. This past fall he performed the role of the Primo Tenore in **Viva la mamma!**. Mr. Lilly studies with Kathleen Kaun.

Tenor ERIC LONGO, a native of Philadelphia, is a second-year graduate student, studying with Kathleen Kaun at The Shepherd School of Music. Mr. Longo graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Carnegie Mellon University. He has performed the roles of Mayor Upfold in **Albert Herring** and Henrik in **A Little Night Music**. At the Shepherd School, he has performed the role of Gherardo in **Gianni Schicchi** and the Tenor in the Prologue from **Ariadne auf Naxos**.

ANN MARSHALL, soprano, is a second-year graduate student of Susanne Mentzer at The Shepherd School of Music. Ms. Marshall received her Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Utah State University. While a student there, she was a winner in the Concerto Competition and was awarded the Outstanding Opera Award for her performance as Salud in **La vida breve**. With the Shepherd School, Ms. Marshall has sung the role of the Seconda Donna in **Viva la mamma!** and covered the roles of Nella in **Gianni Schicchi** and Zerlina in **Don Giovanni**. Ms. Marshall has also been involved in several opera outreach programs and has traveled to England and Guatemala to promote music education and awareness.

JULIE MARX, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, is a senior vocal performance major at The Shepherd School of Music. She is a student of Susanne Mentzer. While at the Shepherd School, Ms. Marx has performed in **Street Scene**, **Rinaldo**, **L'elisir d'amore**, and sang the role of Gherardino in **Gianni Schicchi**. This past summer she performed the role of Despina in **Così fan tutte** with the Lyric Opera Studio of Weimar in Germany.

A native of Washington, D.C., mezzo-soprano ERIKA RODDEN is a junior at The Shepherd School of Music, where she studies with Kathleen Kaun. She performed as a member of the chorus for the Shepherd School's production of **Sāvitri** and appeared as a soloist for the Rice Chorale's performance of the **Bach Magnificat**.

A Missouri native, tenor BRENTON RYAN is currently a first-year master's student studying with Dr. Stephen King, and recently received his Bachelor of Music degree from the DePaul School of Music in Chicago, Illinois. While at The Shepherd School of Music, Mr. Ryan performed the role of the



Tanzmeister in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and this spring will be performing the role of Henrik in *A Little Night Music*. Highlights from DePaul include singing the roles of Captain Macheath in *The Beggar's Opera*, the Prince in *Transformations*, and the principal tenor in *The Fairy Queen*. In the summer of 2008, Mr. Ryan was awarded the three-year New Horizon Fellowship from the Aspen Music Festival and School, where he will return next summer.

Mezzo-soprano ERICA SCHOELKOPF is a junior at The Shepherd School of Music. She has appeared as a soloist in the Rice Chorale's performance of the Bach *Magnificat* and Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*. She performed as an ensemble member in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* last spring. Ms. Schoelkopf studies voice with Susanne Mentzer.

Equally at home on operatic and concert stages, SAMUEL SCHULTZ has been seen as Maestro di capella in *Viva la mamma!*, Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*, Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Junius in *The Rape of Lucretia*, George Jones in *Street Scene*, and covered the roles of Masetto in *Don Giovanni* and Pooh-Bah in *The Mikado*. His solo concert repertoire includes performances of Handel's *Messiah*, the Fauré *Requiem*, the Bach *Magnificat*, Saint-Saëns' *Christmas Oratorio*, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, and Poulenc's *Rapsodie nègre*. In 2008, Mr. Schultz was asked to represent Rice University in the Shepherd School of Music Regional Opera Gala Concerts in Aspen, Chicago, Dallas, New York City, and San Francisco. As an alumnus of the United States Senate Page Program, he had the prestigious honor of singing for the U.S. Congress. Mr. Schultz studies with Dr. Stephen King as a first-year graduate student.

A native of Paw Paw, Michigan, soprano CHELSEA SHEPHARD made her professional debut last February with DuPage Opera Theater as Jenny Diver in Britten's *The Beggar's Opera*. She returned to the company last summer as Giannetta in *L'elisir d'amore* and has performed the First Lady in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Intermezzo Young Artist Program in Brugge, Belgium. She received her undergraduate degree from DePaul University, and while there, performed the roles of Anne Sexton in Conrad Susa's *Transformations*, Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi*, the title role in Purcell's *The Fairy Queen*, and Barbarina in *The Marriage of Figaro*. On the concert stage, Ms. Shephard has appeared several times as a soloist with the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra. Her recent awards include finalist in the Bel Canto Foundation Opera Competition, semi-finalist in Classical Singer's University Vocal Competition, The Polish Arts Club of Chicago Scholarship, and the 2007 Vittorio Angeli Enrichment Scholarship for language and scene study in Urbania, Italy. This spring, the first-year master's student will portray Mrs. Nordstrom in *A Little Night Music*. Ms. Shephard currently studies with Kathleen Kaun.

ANNAMARIE ZMOLEK is a second-year master's student at the Shepherd School, where she studies with Kathleen Kaun. She appeared last season as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and this past fall as the Prima Donna in *Viva la mamma!*. This summer she was an Apprentice Artist at Central City Opera and sang the student performance as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. She also appeared in the mainstage performance of *A Little Night Music* as Mrs. Anderssen, for which she was praised by Opera News for "projecting the requisite sophistication (and tricky words)." Ms. Zmolek completed her undergraduate studies at the Eastman School of Music. Past roles include the Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Frasquita in *Carmen*, Lisette in *La Rondine*, and Nightingale in *Nightingale*.